FLORENCE TOWNSHIP RESOLUTION 2021-157

Resolution by the Township of Florence requesting the State of New Jersey, County of Burlington and the Township of Burlington to approve restricting the gross vehicle weight to 8 tons along a segment of County Route 656, which is known as Delaware Avenue/Front Street that extends from US Route 130 to the Burlington Township municipal boundary where the county road is known as River Road, and changing the designated truck route that would extend from County Route 656 (River Road) to Dulty's Lane, which is a county road in Burlington Township, to US Route 130 until an alternate bypass route can be established as a new designated truck route.

WHEREAS, for more than thirty years, the Township of Florence has pursued weight restricting Delaware Avenue and Front Street, which includes executing an agreement with the County of Burlington around 2000 to identify an alternate route for trucks driving through Florence Township; and

WHEREAS, for the past ten years Florence Township has participated in several studies with the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC), the State of New Jersey, the County of Burlington, the Burlington County Bridge Commission (BCBC), and the Township and City of Burlington to review and recommend transportation improvements to US Route 130 and intersecting roads in the three municipalities; and

WHEREAS, in particular, the "Burlington County River Route Corridor Study" prepared by BCBC and its traffic consultant WSP and dated June 29, 2018, and the study titled "Freight Movement Around NJ Turnpike Interchange 6A" prepared by DVRPC and dated March 2018 recommended a "Connector Road from River Road (CR 656) to Daniels Way" that would intersect John Galt Way and ultimately US Route 130 thereby serving as a new alternative for trucks to access industry located along River Road; and

WHEREAS, during the past 10 to 15 years, there has been significant growth of warehouse/distribution facilities built in the City and Township of Burlington with a substantial amount of the trucks using Delaware Avenue/Front Street in Florence Township to travel to US Route 130 to access Interstate 295 or the New Jersey Turnpike; and

WHEREAS, in the spirit of cooperation, Florence Township worked with Burlington Township to allow the development of the Carson property, which is located in Burlington Township and is adjacent to the Florence Township Sewage Treatment facility, to connect to the Florence Township water and sanitary sewer systems, in order for the developer to avoid making an excessively long and expensive run of utilities to the Burlington Township water and sanitary sewer systems and to dedicate the savings accrued resulting from the short run of utilities toward the cost of constructing the "Daniels Way Bypass"; and

WHEREAS, Florence Township has issued a letter to Whitesell Inc., which owns land along the route for the Daniels Way Bypass, requesting its assistance in facilitating the realization of the Daniels Bypass, and has received Whitesell Inc.'s response denying the Township's request; and

WHEREAS, Dulty's Lane became a County Road in 2020.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Florence Township respectively requests that the State of New Jersey approve the County of Burlington weight restricting County Route 656, which is known as Delaware Avenue and Front Street in the Township of Florence, to 8 tons and changing the designated truck route that would extend from County Route 656 (River Road) to Dulty's Lane, which is a county road, to US Route 130 until the Daniels Way Bypass is constructed thereby serving as the designated truck route.

I, Nancy L. Erlston, Clerk of the Township of Florence, County of Burlington, State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution is a true copy of the Resolution approved by Township Council at their July 21, 2021- meeting.

Nancy L. Erlston, RMC Township Clerk

Note: This resolution requests permission to weight restrict County Route 656 aka Delaware Avenue/Front Street